

Releases of *Hylobius* Root Weevils on Purple Loosestrife in California

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The Biological Control Program received a total of 525 adult *Hylobius transversovittatus* weevils for release on purple loosestrife in California in 2003. The weevils were provided by Margorie Gilford, USDA-APHIS, Niles, Michigan. Shipment of these weevils was arranged by Richard Hansen, USDA-APHIS-CPHST, Fort Collins, Colorado. Releases of the weevils were made in Shasta County and Kern County.

A total of 325 weevils were sent to the Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. Kevin Martyn made the field releases on August 15, 2003. A levee break and subsequent flooding meant that one of the sites had to be a new site as the expected site was underwater. Figure one shows the location of these as well as past releases in the Fall River Valley.

The Kern County release was made with Robert Wegis of the Kern County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. A total of 200 *Hylobius* weevils were released at the Smith Ranch near Onyx in Kern County on August 14, 2003.

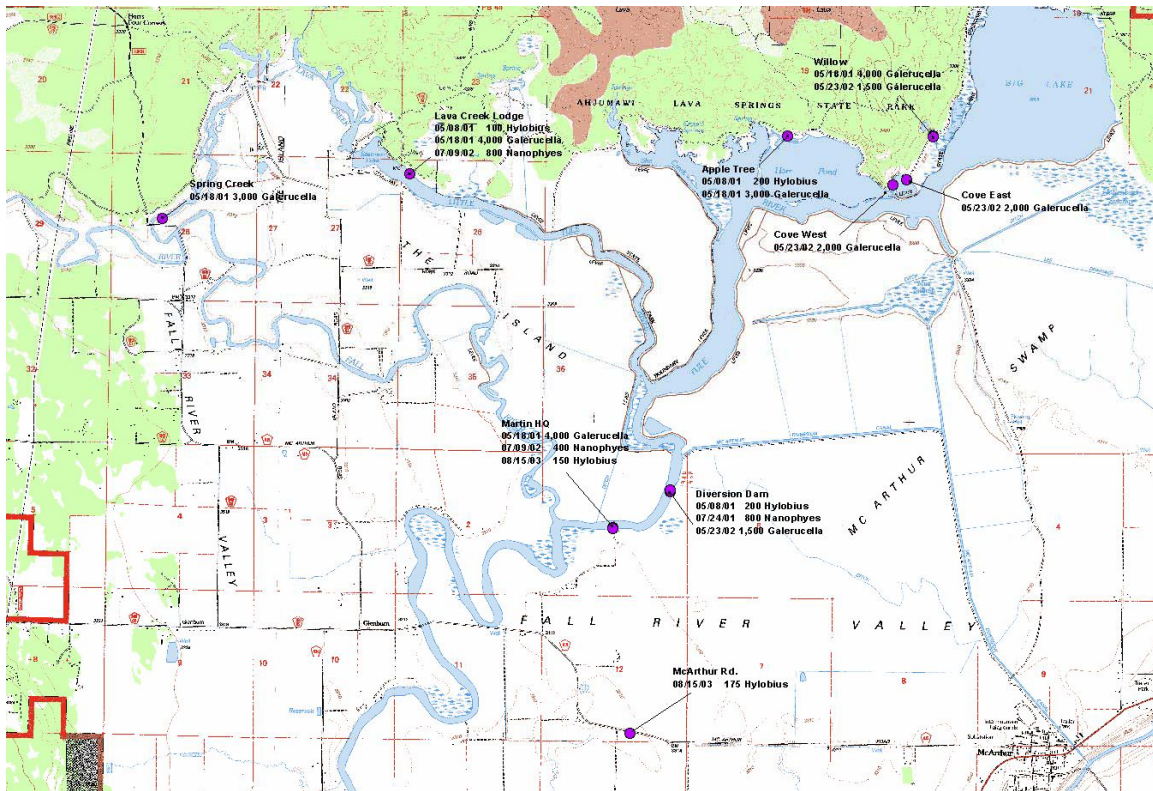


Figure 1. Release locations and release totals of purple loosestrife biological control insects in the Fall River Valley.

¹ Shasta County Department of Agriculture, Redding, CA.